

National Film Board Gallery. The best of Canadian photography in regularly changing exhibitions. (150 Kent Street; open daily during exhibitions only)

National Library and Public Archives. A storehouse of documents, recordings, films and photographs relating to the development of Canada, many are on display. Reproductions are on sale at reasonable prices. (395 Wellington Street; all year, daily)

Byways and Waterways



Rideau Canal and Locks. Completed in 1832, on the advice of the Duke of Wellington, to allow British gunboats to avoid the American cannon on the St. Lawrence. Never used for military purposes, it became a commercial waterway, and today is used for pleasure-boat cruising in summer, skating in winter.

Nepean Point. Site of outdoor summer concerts, this park has superb views of Parliament Hill across a bend of the river. (Off St. Patrick Street)



Central Experimental Farm. A 1,200-acre (486 ha) farm within minutes of the heart of the city with expertly cared for flower beds, arboretum, crops and animal barns (The Driveway). All year, daily. Barns open weekdays. Horse-drawn wagon tours weekdays mid-May - mid-October except holidays and rainy days.)

Stalls and Stores

When you set out for a little shopping and strolling in Ottawa, you have a choice.

Sparks Street Mall. A pedestrian street closed to vehicles, lined with flowers, exclusive shops and boutiques. There are five illuminated fountains, sidewalk cafes, and open-air art shows to catch your eye as you stroll by (Confederation Square.)

By-Ward Market. A real honest-to-goodness farmers' market. Since 1850, the farmers have brought their produce here, and will probably always do so. (York Street; May - October, daily except Sunday November - December, Fridays and Saturdays.)

Rideau Street. One of the main shopping streets in downtown Ottawa, with smart shops and two giant department stores: The Bay and Ogilvy's Ottawa's oldest department store.

Capital Sports

Fortunately for visitors, politics is not the only game in town. Good golf courses, tennis courts, pools, beaches and boating waters are all open to visitors, and the woods are never far away for hiking, canoeing and fishing in summer, skiing and tobogganing



In winter There's also a year-round ice rink at the Nepean Sportsplex (1701 Woodroffe Ave.). Spectator sports are up to par, with the Ottawa Roughriders (CFL football), the Ottawa 67's (Major Junior A hockey - the league the pros spring from) and two racetracks, with year-round harness racing. Rideau-Carlton Raceway and Connaught Park Raceway

Festive Occasions

Festival Ottawa. An annual performing arts festival which includes theatrical arts staged in the National Arts Centre. The standard of production is extremely high (July)

Central Canada Exhibition. A large-scale country fair with a major Horse Show midway, agricultural exhibits and big-name entertainment in the grandstand. (Lansdowne Park; 10 days, late August)

Taking a Tour



Ottawa is not a huge city by modern standards, but the sights tend to be rather spread out. A bus tour is an excellent way to take them all in while spending a relatively short period of time doing so. You get an

interesting choice of buses - authentic English double-decker or regular - and innumerable departure times. All buses leave from the National Arts Centre, though pick-up can be arranged from major motels. (April - October). There are also boat tours on the placid canal, through the heart of the city. (Mid-May - Thanksgiving)

Pembroke



Once surrounded by forests, Pembroke has always been linked with the great timber trade which still influences its industry today. Pembroke was also the first town in Canada to light its streets by electricity. Riverside Park is the site of Ontario's largest totem pole, a work by woodcarver Abe Patterson. The park also has an excellent beach.

Champlain Trail Museum. Named so because it is situated near the end of the trail of Champlain's first explorations in this area. Perhaps the trail ended because Champlain lost his astrolabe hereabouts. An astrolabe dated 1693 (Champlain's?) was found in 1867 and an exact replica can be seen in the museum, along with many artifacts of the pioneers. (1032 Pembroke Street East; June - September, daily)

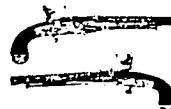


Whitewater Float Trips. Wilderness Tours, Pembroke, offer thrilling roller-coaster rides running the spectacular rapids of the Ottawa River. Advance reservations are necessary. Write to Wilderness Tours, Box 661, Pembroke, Ont. or call (613) 582-3351 (summer). (June - September, daily)



Perth

Named after the city of Perth in Scotland, the town stands on the river Tay (also named, naturally enough, for the Tay in Scotland). Perth was first a military settlement. The town was also the site of the last fatal duel in Ontario which took place on July 13, 1833.



Archibald W. Campbell Memorial Museum. The history of Perth and its surrounding area is presented in the collection of artifacts on display in this museum, housed in an outstanding 138-year-old example of Scottish-influenced Canadian architecture. (11 Gore St., all year, daily January - March, weekends only)

Prescott

Fort Wellington. In a commanding position on the St. Lawrence, this old military post saw action during the War of 1812. See the restored barracks, subterranean passage, armoury, guard house and officers' quarters with period furniture. In July, an historic military pageant is performed by regiments of Canada, France and the U.S. in period uniforms. (Highway 2; mid-May - October, daily November - mid-May, Monday - Friday)



The Blue Church. Built in 1845, this pretty clapboard church has been painted blue ever since anyone can remember. It is the burial place of Barbara Heck, founder of Methodism in North America. (2 miles (3 km) west on Highway 2)

Renfrew

Storyland. Over 200 storybook characters, most of them animated, are displayed in about 40 different fairy-tale stories set in a natural woodland environment. Also featured is a wildlife museum, an Astro



Playground, Frontierland, and picnic areas. (8 miles (13 km) north off Highway 17 on Ottawa River; mid-May - Labour Day, daily, Labour Day - Thanksgiving, weekends only)

Champlain Lookout. A magnificent panoramic view of the Ottawa River from the lookout four hundred feet above the surrounding countryside (located at the end of Storyland)

Cross Canada Craft Shop. Eskimo and Golden Lake Reserve Indian carvings and crafts. (11 miles (18 km) west on Highway 17; July and August)

Rideau Ferry

Riverboat Holidays. Cruise along the Rideau River for a pleasant vacation experience on board the "M5 Rideau Wanderer" and the "M5 Rideau Traveller." Cruises leave from Portland (Weekends, late May - June and September - mid-October July - August, daily)

Rockport

Boat Cruise. Thousand Islands cruises. 2½ hours including a stop at Boldt Castle (Rockport Dock; May - Thanksgiving)

Smiths Falls

Hershey Chocolate Company. Tour the multi-million dollar plant and see how chocolate bars are made (Hershey Drive, in town, off Highway 43 all year, Monday - Friday)



Williamstown

Williamstown was settled in 1784 by Sir John Johnson and his Loyalists from the Mohawk Valley in New York. Many substantial homes were built in and around this picturesque village.

The Nor'westers and Loyalists Museum. Displays tell the story of the North West Company and the men of the fur trade, as well as the Loyalists who settled the area (Victoria Day - June and September - Thanksgiving, weekends only July and August, daily)

The Williamstown Fair. The oldest annual farm fair in Ontario (early August)

